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STEEL

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APPROVED
COMICS
CODE
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STEEL



BATISTA-JANKE '94

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THANK YOU, STEEL.
WITHOUT YOUR
EFFORTS ON
METROPOLIS'S BE-
HALF, WE COULD NEVER
HAVE DEFEATED
RIFT!

I HAD
RETURNED
TO METROPOLIS
TO FOLLOW LEADS
IN MY SEARCH FOR
A CRIMINAL OR-
GANIZATION CALLED
BLACK OPS.

IT WAS
JUST LUCK
THAT I WAS
HERE TO
HELP!

SURE YOU
DON'T WANT
TO STICK
AROUND?

WE CAN
USE A GOOD
MAN LIKE YOU IN
METROPOLIS!

THANKS,
BUT NO
THANKS.

BLACK OPS WAS
RUN BY HAZARD,
AND IT LOOKS
LIKE HIS OPERA-
TION HAS BEEN
DESTROYED.

I APPRECIATE
YOUR OFFER,
BUT RIGHT NOW,
I'VE GOT TO
GET BACK
HOME.

AS MUCH AS
I'VE ALWAYS
LIKED
METROPOLIS...

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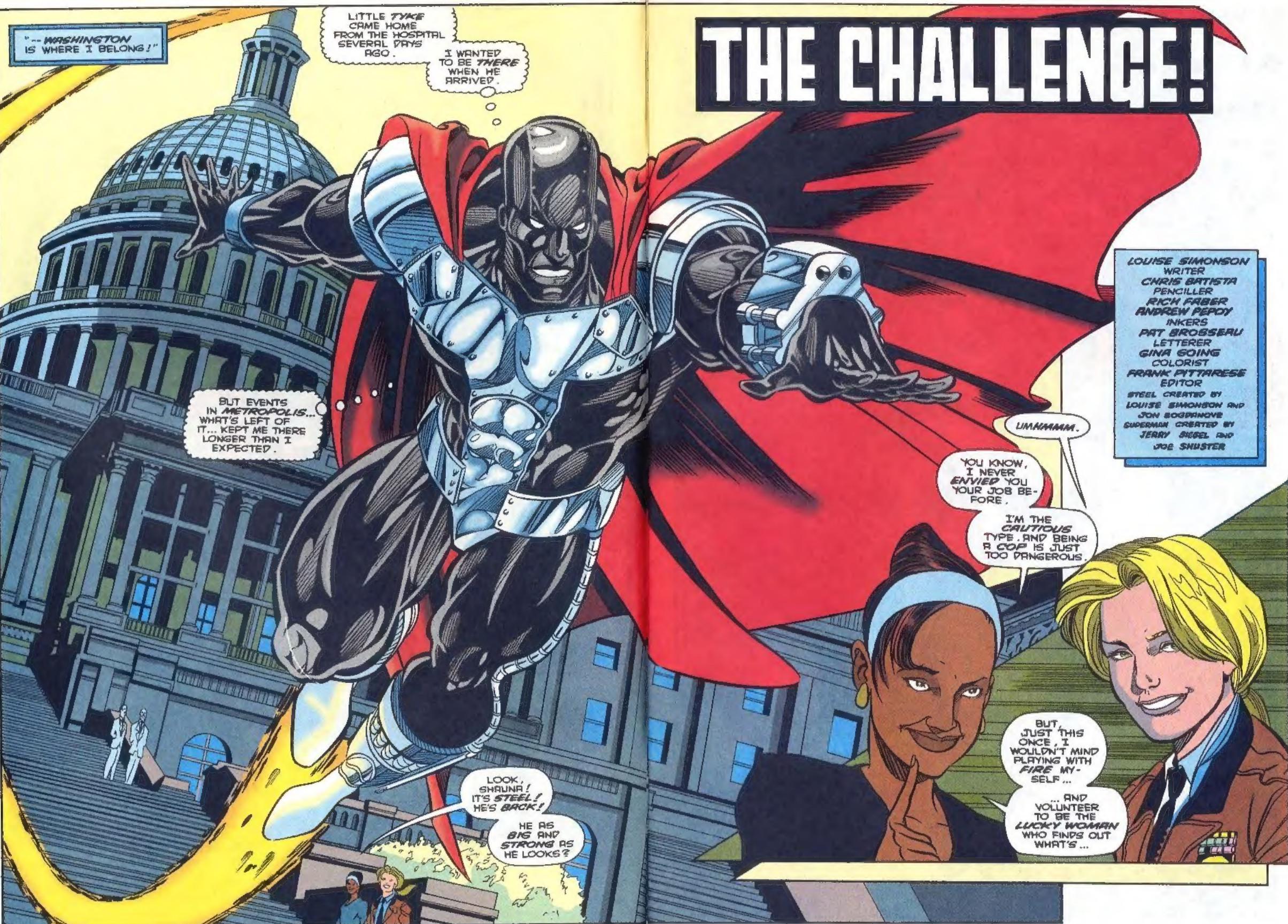
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THE CHALLENGE!



"...BENEATH
THAT MASK!"

OUR
ATTEMPT TO
SET UP BLACK
OPS' MAIN
NORTH AMERICAN
HEADQUARTERS...

...IN METROPOLIS
SEEMED LIKE OUR
BEST OPTION AT
THE TIME, BUT...

YES. THE
RUMORS
THAT LUTHOR WAS
FAILING IMPLIED
THAT SOON THERE
WOULD BE A
VACUUM BLACK
OPS COULD
FILL.

BUT METROPOLIS
IS DESTROYED
NOW AND NOT
WORTH THE EFFORT.

IT'S ONLY
THANKS TO
TRINITY THAT
WE GOT OUT
OF IT ALIVE."

AT
LEAST OUR
WASHINGTON
HEADQUARTERS
IS ALMOST
FINISHED...

...SINCE IT
WAS ALWAYS
OUR FALL-
BACK POSITION
IN CASE OF
TROUBLE.

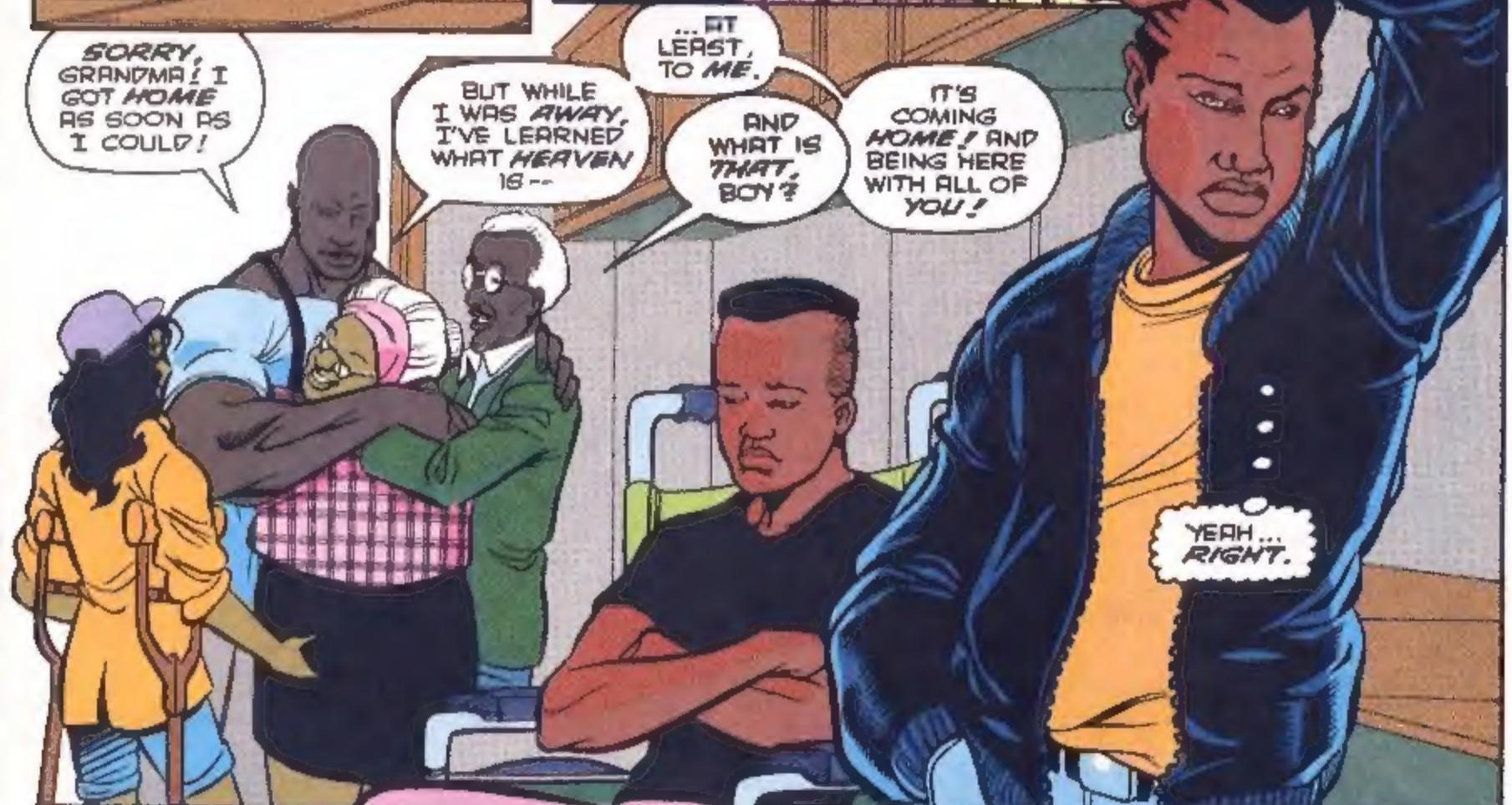
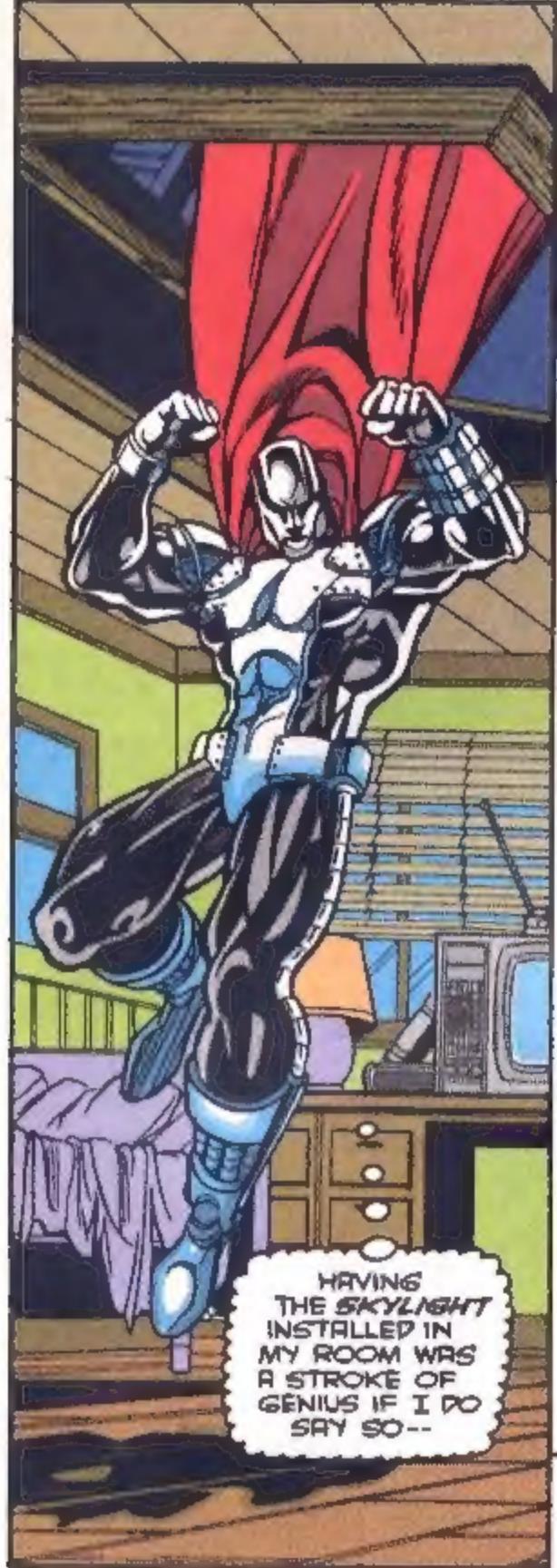
AND IT
HAS ITS AD-
VANTAGES.

FOR ONE, I
WILL BE BETTER
ABLE TO INFLU-
ENCE AMERICAN
POLICY FROM
HERE.

OF COURSE,
STEEL
ALSO IS IN
WASHINGTON.

BUT
NOT FOR
LONG.

"THE
"WORLD'S
COLLIDE"
CROSS-OVER





TAR'S
STILL HERE
WHERE I HID
IT. GOOD.

EXTRA
VIRLS I
STOLE FROM
AMALGAM.
THREE OF
'EM.

CHUGGING
THIS STUFF
AGAIN WOULD
BE DANGEROUS.

A RUSH
OF POWER.
AND THEN I'D
BE DEAD.

MAYBE IT
WOULDN'T BE
SO BAD. MAY-
BE I SHOULD
DO IT.

THE
BULLET
THAT HIT TYKE
WAS MEANT FOR
ME, ANYWAY.

I SHOULD
BE THE ONE
IN THAT WHEEL-
CHAIR... OR
DEAD.

NOT AN
INNOCENT
LITTLE KID
WHO'S GRATE-
FUL HE'S GOT
A PLACE TO
STAY...

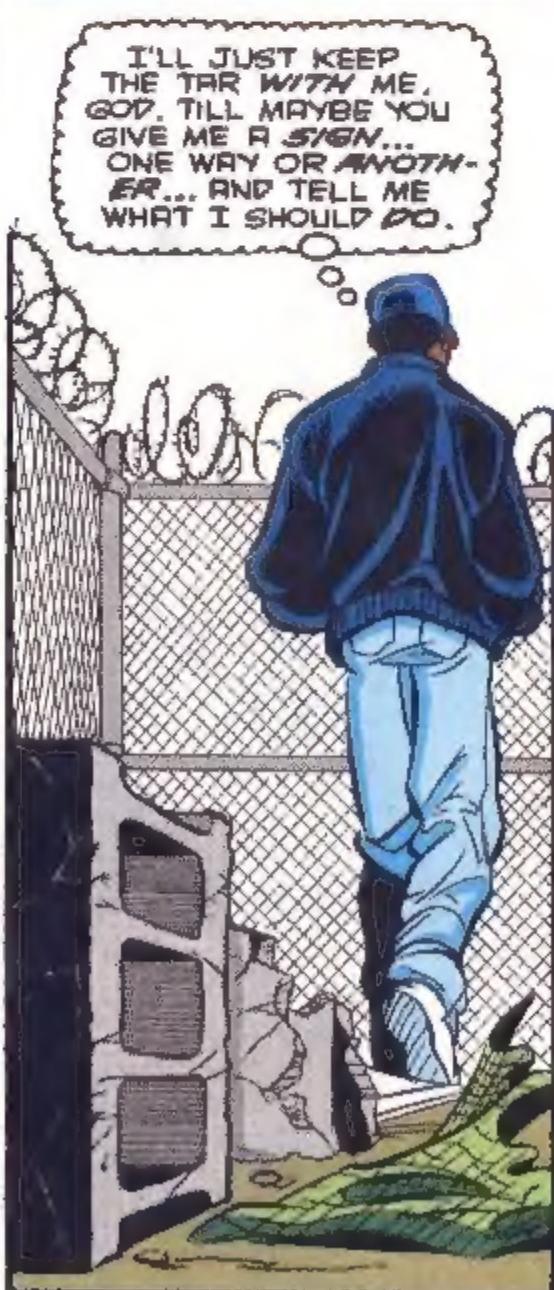
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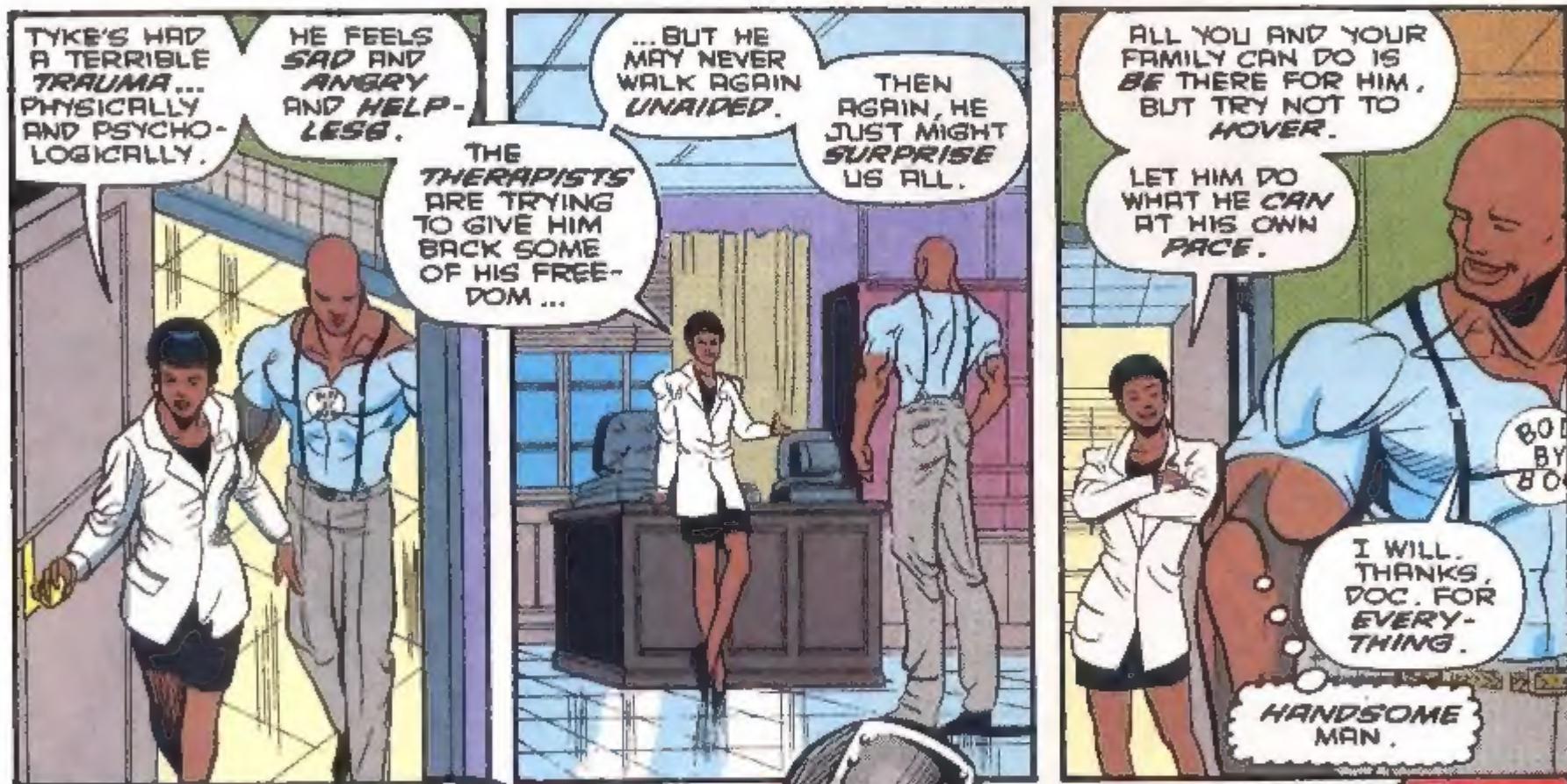
...AND WHO
THANKS ME
WHEN I CARRY
HIM UPSTAIRS.
EXCEPT...

THAT'S NOT
WHAT MATT
WOULD SAY.
OR UNCLE
JOHN. OR
GRANDMA.

THEY'D BE
SAD. BUT
THEY'D GET
OVER IT. I
THINK.

I'LL JUST KEEP
THE TAR WITH ME,
GOD. TILL MAYBE YOU
GIVE ME A SIGN...
ONE WAY OR ANOTH-
ER... AND TELL ME
WHAT I SHOULD DO.





"...GRANDMA AND TYKE AND THE OTHERS IN THE PARK."



"WE'RE GOING TO THE VIETNAM MEMORIAL NEXT, TYKE."

MOM'S BROTHER STEVEN WAS KILLED IN THE WAR BACK IN 1973.

HIS NAME'S ON THE MEMORIAL, TYKE. IT--

EXCUSE ME. HAVE YOU SEEN A BUNCH OF KIDS UP AHEAD?

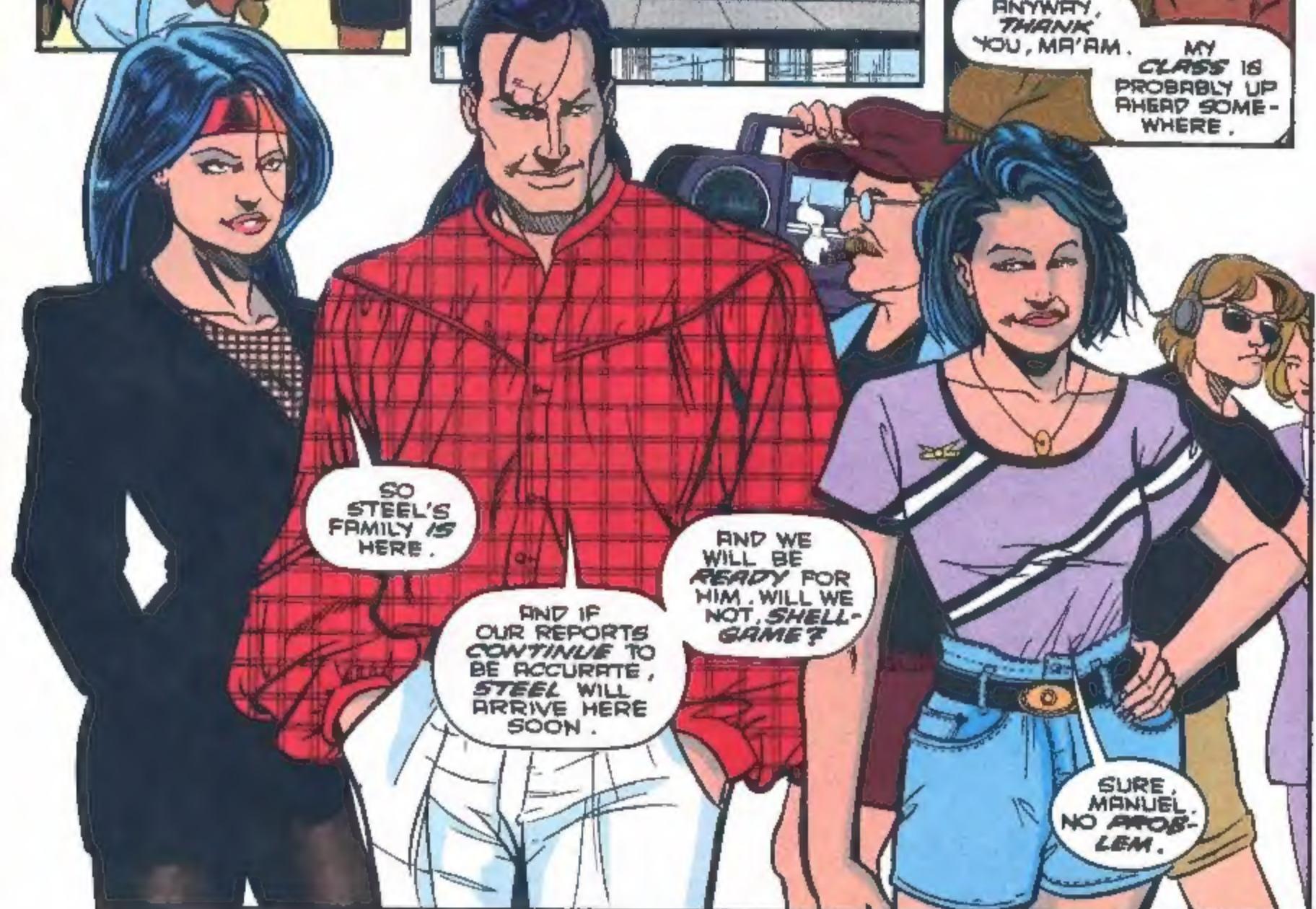


YOU KNOW ... YOU LOOK JUST LIKE MY GRANDSON WHEN HE WAS A BOY.

THAT'S FUNNY. YOU LOOK LIKE MY GRANDMA, TOO...

...ONLY HER HAIR'S BLACK.

ANYWAY, THANK YOU, MA'M. MY CLASS IS PROBABLY UP AHEAD SOMEWHERE.



SO STEEL'S FAMILY IS HERE.

AND IF OUR REPORTS CONTINUE TO BE ACCURATE, STEEL WILL ARRIVE HERE SOON.

AND WE WILL BE READY FOR HIM. WILL WE NOT, SHELL-GAME?

SURE, MANUEL. NO PROBLEM.

SHAUNA'S
SUSPICIONS
ABOUT HAZARD
AND BLACK OPS
MIRRORED MINE
EXACTLY.

BLACK
OPS IS MORE
THAN A ONE-
TOWN OPERA-
TION.

OR, I
SUSPECT,
ONE
COUNTRY.

BLACK OPS...
AND HAZARD...
ARE PROBABLY
ALIVE AND WELL.

WHICH
MEANS MY
SEARCH
GOES ON.
BUT NOT
TODAY.

TODAY I
FIND SOME
PLACE TO
CHANGE
OUT OF THIS
ARMOR...

"...AND JOIN
GRANDMA AND
THE KIDS IN THE
PARK BELOW!"

SOME KIND
OF GOVERN-
MENT EXPERI-
MENT?

EXPERIMENT?
WHERE ARE
YOU FROM THAT
YOU NEVER HEARD
OF...

...THE MAN
CALLED
STEEL!

WOW!
WHAT'S
THAT?



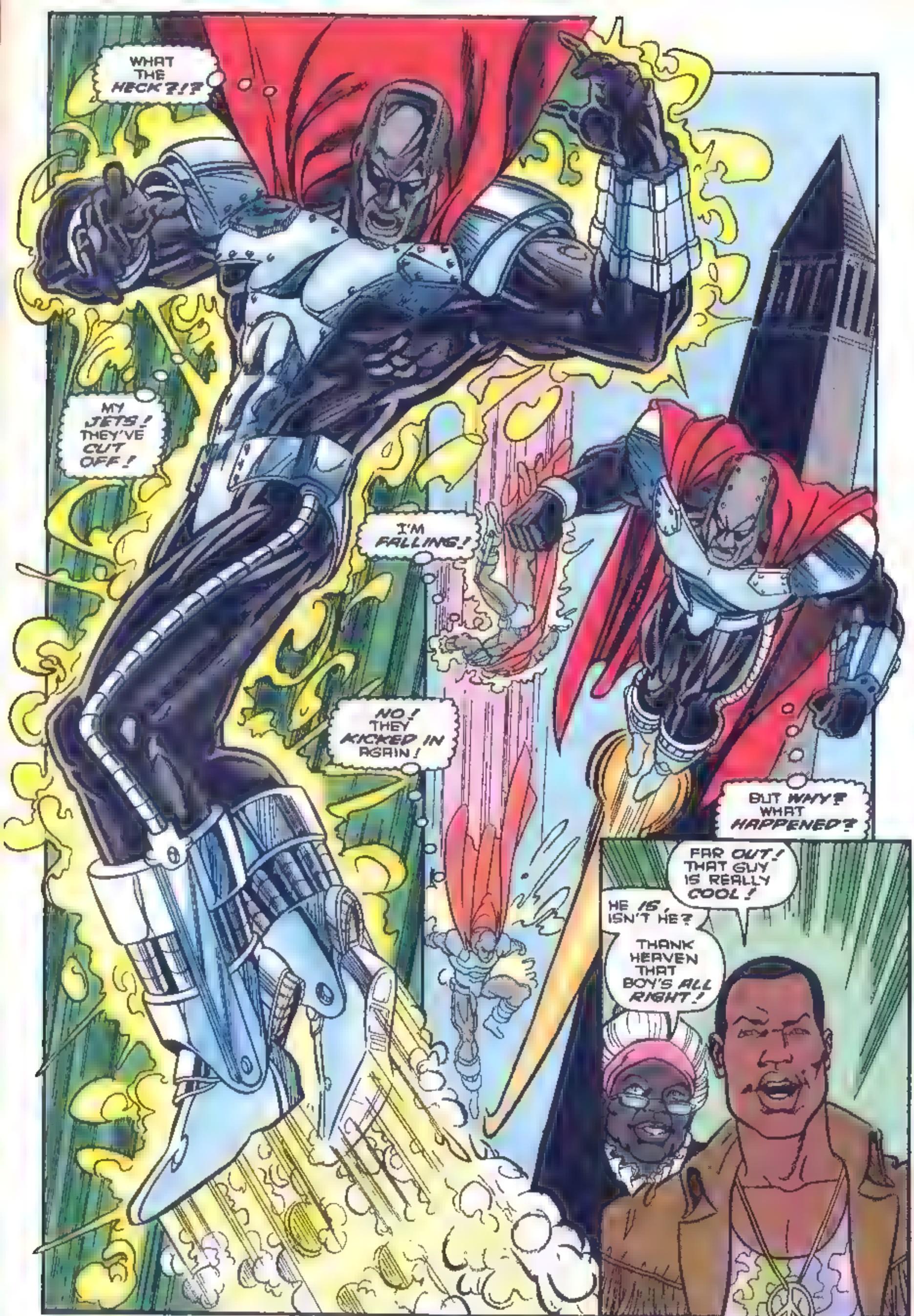
THERE
HE IS! I
DIDN'T EXPECT
HIM TO ARRIVE
IN ARMOR...

...THOUGH
I WAS
PREPARED
FOR THE POS-
SIBILITY.

SHELLGAME,
DISMANTLE
IT.

MY
PLEASURE.





I'M SORRY,
BOSS. IT
DIDN'T
WORK.

NEVER
MIND, SHELL-
GAME!

HE MUST
HAVE SOME
GIMMICK
TO COMBAT
YOUR
POWER

I DID IT
RIGHT... I
SWEAR
I DID

BUT HIS
ARMOR
IS STILL
IN ONE
PIECE!

WE'LL
HAVE TO
DO THIS
THE OLD-
FASHIONED
WAY

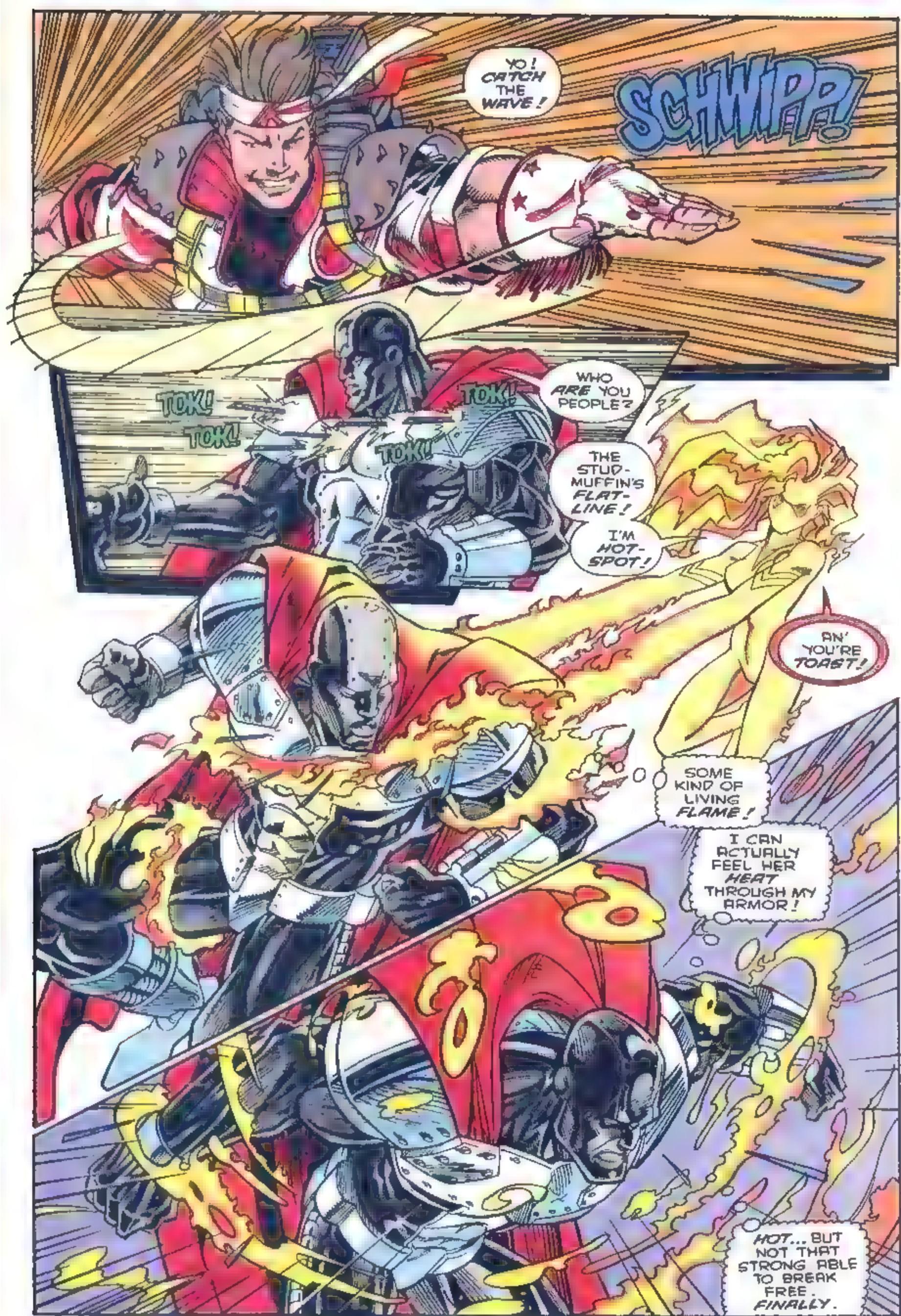
GET
HIM.

HEY,
STEEL! WE
GOT THE GO
AHEAD! SO
TURN AROUND
AND FACE--

--HAZARD'S
FIRST WAVE!

THEY
APPEARED
OUT OF NO-
WHERE!

GUESS I
DON'T HAVE
TO ASK WHAT
THEY WANT!



MEANT TO
GRAB HER.
AND FLEW RIGHT
THROUGH HER
INSTEAD!

SHE'S MADE
ENTIRELY OF
FLAME...
AND IM-
MATERIAL.

NAT, GET
GRANDMA IN
THE TRENCH
BESIDE THE
VIETNAM
MEMORIAL.

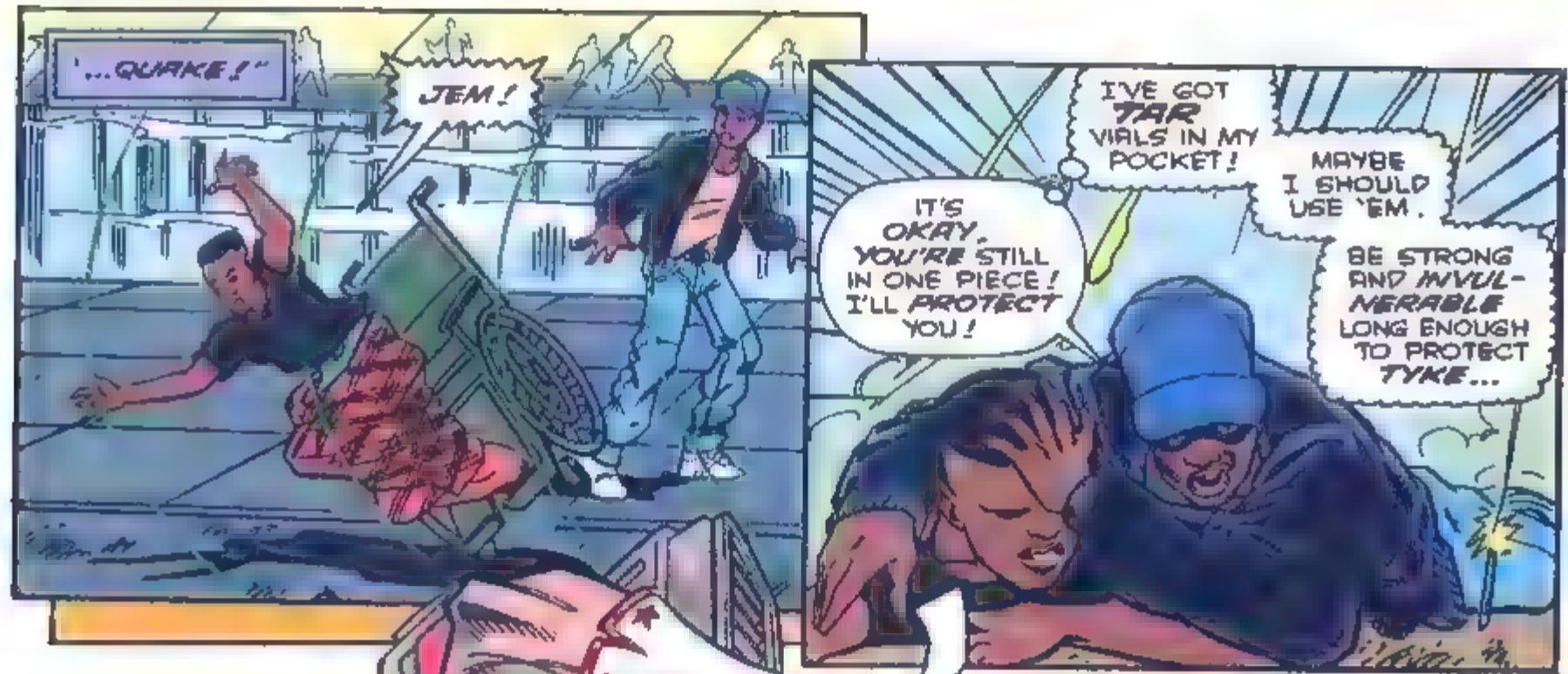
I'LL
TAKE
CARE OF
TYKE!

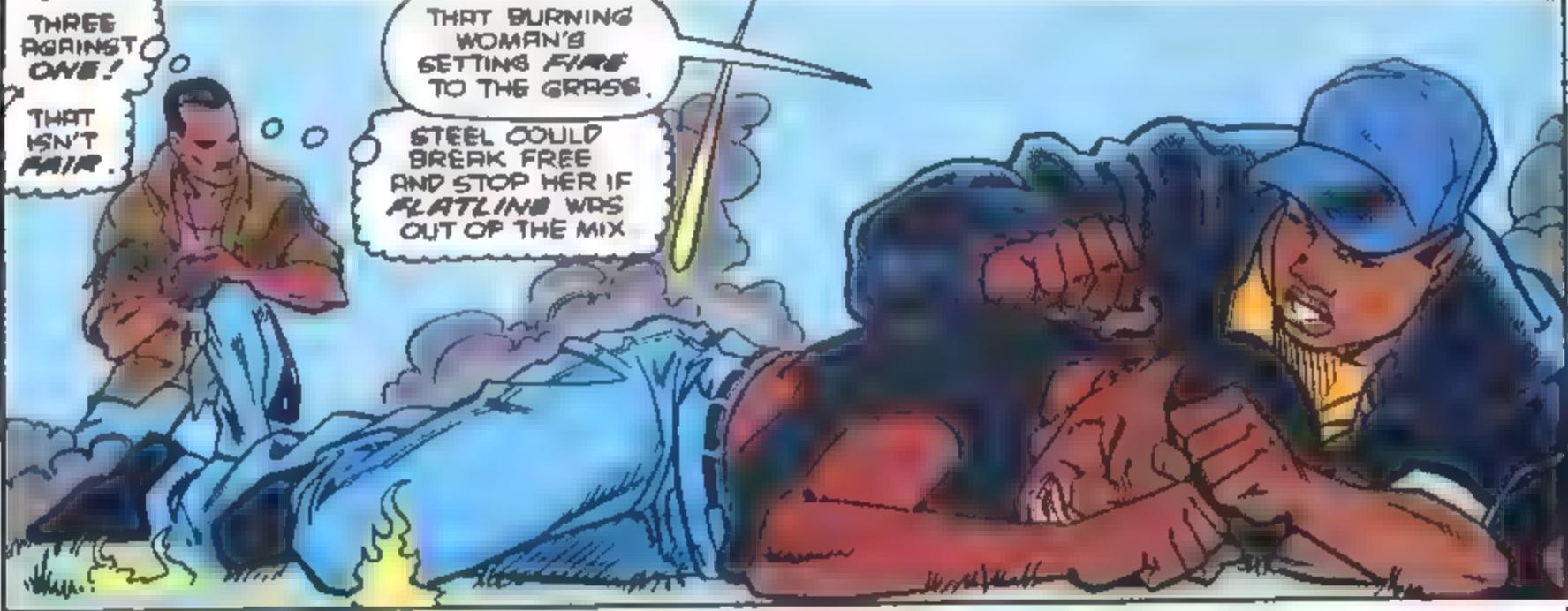
RIGHT!
GRANDMA--
COME ON!

HIS CLAP
CAUSES SHOCK-
WAVES NEARLY
KNOCKED ME
FROM THE
SKY!

LUCKY MY
ARMOR'S
STILL IN ONE
PIECE!

YOU'VE
TRIED THE
REST... NOW
TRY THE
BEST!





...AND
WATER AND
FIRE ARE A
NOTORIOUSLY
BAD MIX!

NEXT
STEP'S
OBVIOUS!

THE
REFLECTING
POOL IS
RIGHT BELOW
US...

MAN,
I CAN'T
BELIEVE
YOU MADE
THAT
PITCH!

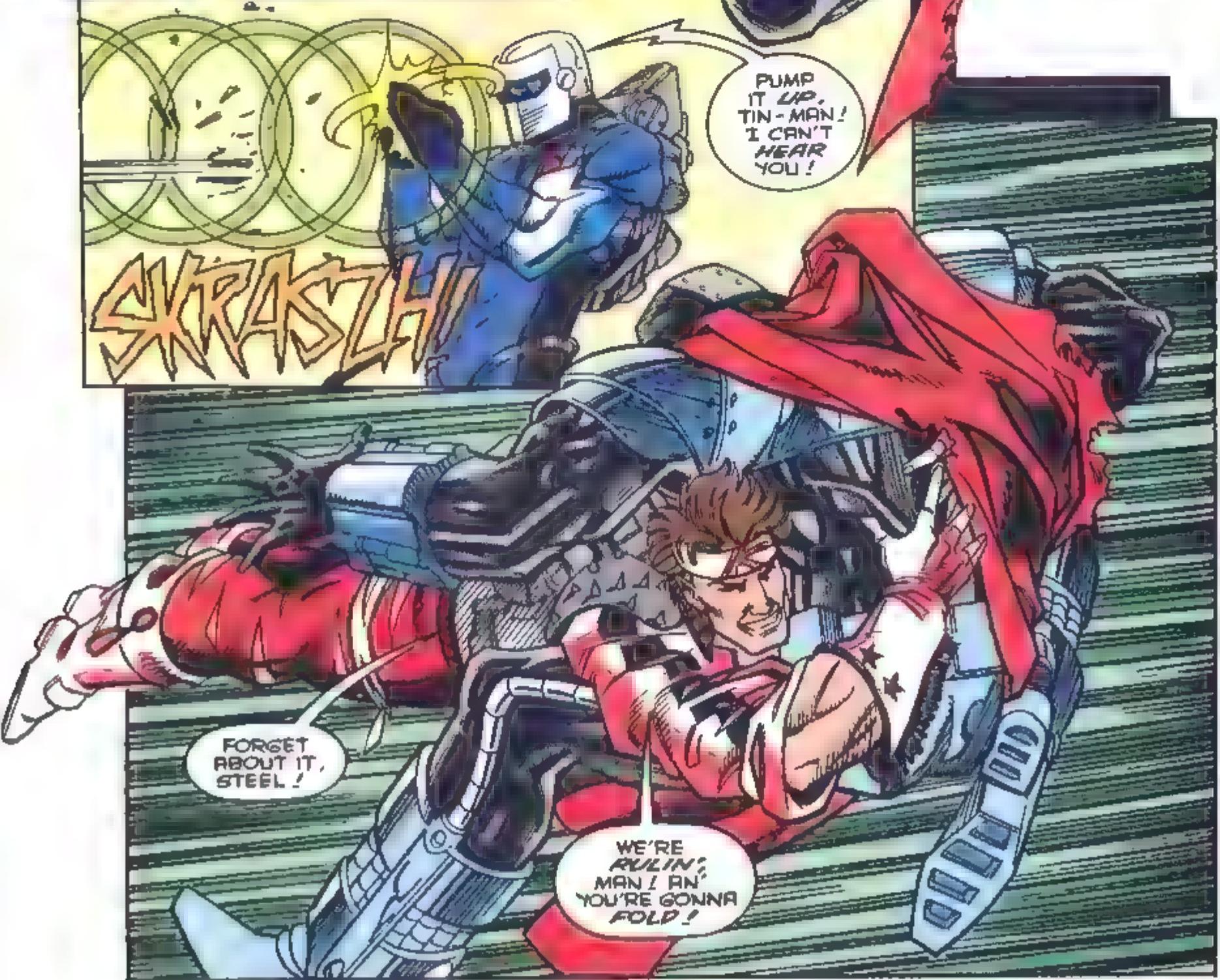
ME
NEITHER!

IT WAS
A LONG
SHOT! I'M
JUST GLAD IT
WORKED!

WHAT'S
YOUR
NAME?

JEMAHL
IRONS.

IRONS?!?
BUT... THAT'S
MY NAME,
TOO!



WHERE
ARE
WE?

YOU'RE KIDDING,
RIGHT? IT'S THE
VIETNAM WAR
MEMORIAL.

WHAT'S
THAT?

TO HONOR
THE
SOLDIERS
WHO DIED IN
VIETNAM.

JEM'S
UNCLE'S
NAMES ON
IT. HE DIED
IN 1973.

BUT THE
MEMORIAL
WASN'T DEDI-
CATED TILL
1982. RIGHT,
JEM?

'73?
AND
'82??

SOMEHOW...
FOR SOME
REASON... I
MUST HAVE
SLIPPED OUT
OF TIME.

"JEM
MUST BE A
RELATIVE.
COULD HE
BE MY
SON?!"

GONNA
TRASH YOUR
ARMOR...
AN' THEN I'M
TRASHIN'
YOU!

DAMN
ARMOR
WON'T
UDGE!

WHAT'S
YOUR
NAME?

UH...
JOHN
HENRY.

AWESOME!
THAT'S MY
UNCLE'S
NAME!

FUNNY.
HE'S THE
ONLY GUY I
EVER SAW
WHO CAN
THROW
LIKE THAT...

...EXCEPT
FOR YOU!

SOMEHOW,
I THINK I
MAY HAVE
SAVED HIM
FOR THE
FUTURE.

AND MAY-
BE... I'VE
EVEN SAVED
MYSELF.

HIS UNCLE!
HE'S MY
NEPHEW!

THANKS,
JOHN--

JOHN...?

WHILE ABOVE...

FLATLINE'S
TOUGH ! MY
BEST SHOT
ONLY KNOCKS
HIM BACK !

HEY,
TIN-MAN!
BEHIND
YOU !

KRAKK!

QUAKE !
ORDINARILY,
I'D THINK
YOU WERE
TROUBLE !

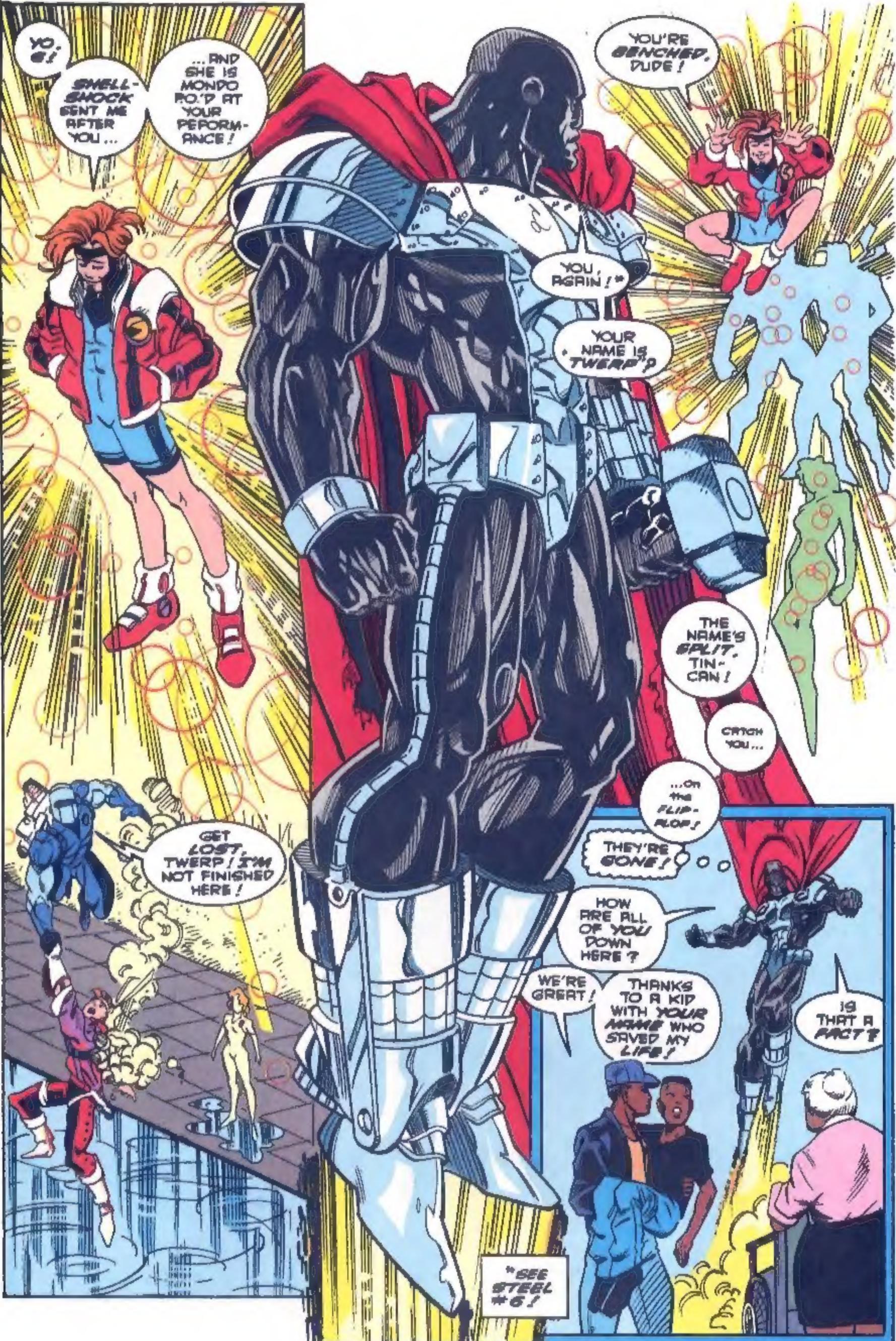
BUT RIGHT
NOW, YOU'RE
THE ANSWER
TO A "TIN-MAN'S"
PRAYERS !

QUAKE !
YOU SPACED
CASE ! YOU
TRASHED
MY JET
PACK !

THAT'S
IT FOR
NOW ! EITHER
STEEL GOT
LUCKY ...
OR MAYBE
OUR GUYS
NEED A FEW
MORE LESSONS
IN TEAM-
WORK !

...OR HE'S
TOUGHER
THAN WE
BELIEVED !

SPLIT !
PULL THOSE
LOSERS
OUT OF
THERE !



YOU SAVED
MY LIFE,
JEM. IF YOU
WEREN'T THERE
I'D BE DEAD.

YES...
I THINK
MAYBE HE
IS!

JEM'S THE
BEST ALMOST-
BROTHER IN THE
WORLD.

HEY,
LOOK! IT'S
STEEL! COME
ON!

SO, I WON'T
TAKE THE TARP...
AT LEAST NOT
ANY TIME SOON.

HECK, IF I
WAS HOME,
WHO WOULD
CARRY TYKE
UPSTAIRS?

HEY,
STEEL! YOU
WERE AWE-
SOME!

SHELLGAME ✓
COULDN'T DIS-
MANTLE STEEL'S
ARMOR...

...NOR COULD
FLATLINE
RIP IT
APART.

GEE,
YOU'RE
SO
TALL!

YOU'RE
NUMBER
ONE IN MY
BOOK!

CAN I
HAVE YOUR
AUTO-
GRAPH?

CAN I
TOUCH
YOUR
CAPE?

HE NEEDS
ME TOO MUCH
FOR ME TO
TAKE STUPID
CHANCES.

THAT
ARMOR WAS
CREATED
THROUGH
AMER-
TEK...

...BUT IT
FUNCTIONS
MUCH BETTER
THAN ITS
ORIGINAL DE-
SIGN WOULD
SUGGEST.

IRONS
MUST HAVE
MADE SOME
MAJOR
MODIFIERS.

I THINK
IT'S TIME TO
TAKE STEEL
OUT FOR
GOOD...

I THINK
IT'S TIME TO
TAKE THAT
ARMOR
BACK!

To Be Continued...